

CHIEF OFFICERS OF STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES

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Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Secretary Dortch,

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) respectfully and enthusiastically supports the American Library Association's nomination of Linda Lord for appointment to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors to fill the library position.

Ms. Lord, who is Maine State Librarian, is well known by the members of COSLA and we are certain that she will be a strong USAC Board representative for libraries. In addition to her responsibilities as Maine State Librarian, Ms. Lord serves as Chair of the American Library Association E-rate Task Force and has deep knowledge and experience with the E-rate program. The Maine State Library is part of a statewide consortium that runs a network which provides Internet access for 899 of Maine's libraries and schools. Prior to her work at the State Library, Ms. Lord spent six years with the Maine Department of Education so she has an appreciation of the concerns of the education community as well.

Ms. Lord consistently demonstrates high professional standards and an ability to collaborate. COSLA is confident that her leadership skills and experience equip her to be an outstanding USAC Board member. Thank you for your consideration of Ms. Lord's nomination.

Sincerely,

Ann Joslin Idaho State Librarian

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President, COSLA